

**ISTEP+ Science Item Sampler  
(Beginning in Spring 2009)**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Item Sampler is to provide teachers and students with examples of the different types of questions that will appear on the ISTEP+ Science assessments. The types of questions will include: multiple choice, constructed response, and extended response.

**Constructed Response (CR) and Extended Response (ER) Items**

Both constructed response and extended response items will require a higher level of thinking and the extended response items may be slightly more complex. Extended response items, in general, will also take students longer to respond. Both constructed response and extended response items may require students to provide an explanation or justification within the item.

**The Content Standards that will be assessed on the Applied Skills Assessment are indicated below.**

Grade 4: Standards 1, 2, 5 and Grades 3 and 4 process skills

Grade 6: Standards 2, 3, 4, 5 and Grades 5 and 6 process skills

**ALL STANDARDS will be assessed on the Multiple Choice Assessment in April/May!**

**Rubrics for Constructed Response and Extended Response Items**

The Scoring Rubrics for the CRs and ERs were developed in such a way as to score items more holistically and report students' scores more accurately. Previous ISTEP+ rubrics were more analytic in nature and did not always allow for the scoring of student responses in a holistic manner. For each CR and ER item, students will receive a score for the content being assessed.